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The Department of the Library pertaining to Geology and Palæontology has received many valuable accessions during the year, for a considerable portion of which the Academy is indebted to the liberality of Mr. Joseph Jeanes.

ANGELO HEILPRIN,
Professor of Invertebrate Palæontology.

REPORT OF THE PROFESSOR OF MINERALOGY FOR 1881.

In submitting to you this, my first annual report upon the condition and needs of the department under my charge, allow me to express my appreciation of the assistance which has been rendered through the active co-operation of your committee on instruction, in the discharge of my duties as Professor of Mineralogy.

Under their auspices a course of practical instruction in Mineralogy was given during the months of March and April. It consisted of thirteen lectures, and was attended by a class of about 35, being as large in number as could conveniently be accommodated in the room set apart for the purpose. The course opened with a review of the history of Mineralogy and of mineralogical classification. Succeeding lectures consisted of a detailed description of the characters of minerals and an exposition of the methods used in mineralogical determination, with experiments. Specimens from the valuable collection of the Academy were used in illustration. Practical work was successfully carried on by nearly all the class. It consisted of the determination of the characters of minerals, the application of chemical tests to detect their constituents, and the performance of the various operations of blowpipe analysis. This was supplemented by a day of practical work in the field.

The summer months were employed in discovering and tracing the line across Pennsylvania of the great terminal moraine of the North American glacier; the work having been accomplished with the assistance of the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania, and of which a report will shortly be published.

The mineral collection of the Academy has been increased during the past year by valuable additions. The donations made

by Mr. Bement and Mr. Vaux are especially worthy of note. A number of undetermined specimens and specimens wrongly labeled have been examined and properly placed in the collection. The labels have been written and the specimens arranged as heretofore by Mr. Chas. F. Parker, in his usual careful manner. It is hoped in time to form special collections, illustrating the various external characters of the minerals.

A very valuable acquisition has been the manuscript catalogue of the rock collection made by the First Geological Survey of Pennsylvania. This catalogue, consisting of 300 pages, is an exact copy of the original catalogue made by Prof. H. D. Rogers, which is now in the possession of the State Agricultural College at Bellefonte. It was copied under the direction of Prof. J. P. Lesley, who, at my request, has now deposited it with the Academy. This catalogue transforms a worthless collection of rocks into a most valuable one. The collection, which was given by Prof. Rogers to the Franklin Institute, and which is now boxed in the cellar of the Academy, awaiting arrangement, consists of 5725 specimens, illustrating the lithology of the greater portion of the State. The specimens are all numbered, and can be so arranged as to correspond with the pages in Prof. Rogers' Final Geological Report, and thus to prove of great service to students. It is to be regretted that the limited space now at the command of the Academy precludes any satisfactory display of this collection.

In accordance with the by-law requesting the Professor to state the needs of the department under his charge, the following suggestions are here offered:

It is very desirable that a single row of drawers should be placed beneath the mineral cases. Specimens of less value than those in the cases, those valuable only for locality, and minerals for the use of students would properly be placed in such drawers. The systematic arrangement and good appearance of the collection would thus be permanently established. It is also recommended that some provision be made for the storage of duplicates. A series of wooden trays sliding in a rough frame would be the most compact and suitable arrangement, and could conveniently accommodate not only the duplicate specimens now scattered, but also others that may hereafter be received.

In the department of instruction much is needed. Before any systematic instruction in crystallography can be given, the Academy should have a set of the Siegen glass crystal models for instruction, and a collection of wooden models for practice. For advanced mineralogical instruction it is also necessary to have certain instruments, among which a reflecting goniometer, a polariscope, and a lithological microscope are the most important. A good balance is also desirable for accurate specific gravity determinations. These instruments would be used both for instruction to advanced students, and, under proper restrictions, for original investigations.

HENRY CARVILL LEWIS,
Professor of Mineralogy.